

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1315
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
DELAYS IN PROJECTS AT MDL
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether crucial projects to build stealth frigates and missile destroyers at Mazgaon Dock Limited are running way behind schedule;
- (b) if so, the time when the construction of frigates at Mazgaon Dock was approved and the original time schedule of the project;
- (c) the reasons for delay in building stealth frigates and missile destroyers; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to speed up the construction work?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE PRODUCTION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b): Project for construction of three stealth frigates at MDL was sanctioned in 1998 with scheduled delivery as December 2005, December 2006 & December 2007 for the three ships. However, the schedule was revised both for stealth frigates and missile destroyers. Now, these projects are progressing as per the revised schedule of delivery without slippage.

(c) The major reasons for the delays are:-

- (i) Concurrent design and construction of warships;
- (ii) Delay in finalization of system and system interfaces for developmental equipment;
- (iii) Delay in ordering of some Weapon Systems;
- (iv) Non performance of some of the indigenous vendors.

(d) Important steps taken by the Government were having stringent monitoring mechanism on half yearly basis by Apex Steering Committee under Secretary (Defence Production) and quarterly review by Controller of Warship Production and Acquisitions, half yearly review at Inter Governmental level for Russian equipment and delegation of enhanced financial power to MDL.